

SEC. 4. Appointees under this Act shall, while on active duty, receive the same pay and allowances as a rear admiral of the upper half, plus a personal money allowance of \$5,000 per annum.

SEC. 5. In the discretion of the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, each officer who shall have served in the grade or rank of Fleet Admiral or General of the Army by virtue of an appointment under the provisions of this Act shall, upon retirement or reversion to the retired list, as the case may be, have on the retired list the highest grade or rank held by him on the active list or on active duty: *Provided*, That each such officer shall be entitled to retired pay equal to 75 per centum of the active-duty pay provided herein for an officer appointed pursuant to the provisions of this Act: *Provided further*, That no officer of the naval or military service on the active or retired list shall be appointed or advanced to the grade or rank of Fleet Admiral or General of the Army except as provided in this Act.

SEC. 6. The officers appointed under the provisions of this Act shall take rank among themselves while on active duty according to dates of appointment.

SEC. 7. Nothing in this Act shall affect the provisions of the Act of September 3, 1919 (41 Stat. 283; 10 U. S. C. 671a), or any other law relating to the office of General of the Armies of the United States.

SEC. 8. This Act shall be effective only until six months after the termination of the wars in which the United States is now engaged as proclaimed by the President, or such earlier date as the Congress, by concurrent resolution, may fix.

Approved December 14, 1944.

Pay and allowances.

Grade or rank upon retirement or reversion to retired list.

Retired pay.

Restriction.

Precedence.

General of the Armies of the U. S.

Effective period.

## [CHAPTER 581]

### AN ACT

To provide Government protection to widows and children of deceased World War I veterans, and for other purposes.

December 14, 1944  
[H. R. 1744]  
[Public Law 483]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That section 1 of Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, June 28, 1934, as amended, is hereby amended by repealing subsections (a) and (b) thereof and substituting the following:

"SEC. 1. (a) The surviving widow, child, or children of any deceased person who served in World War I before November 12, 1918, or if the person was serving with the United States military forces in Russia before April 2, 1920, and who was discharged or released from active service under conditions other than dishonorable after having served ninety days or more or for disability incurred in the service in line of duty, or who at time of death was receiving or entitled to receive compensation, pension, or retirement pay for service-connected disability, shall, upon filing application and such proofs in the Veterans' Administration as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe, be entitled to receive pension as provided by this Act."

SEC. 2. That section 2 of Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. (a) That the monthly rates of pension shall be as follows: Widow but no child, \$35; widow and one child, \$45 (with \$5 for each additional child); no widow but one child, \$18; no widow but two children, \$27 (equally divided); no widow but three children, \$36 (equally divided) with \$4 for each additional child (the total amount to be equally divided)."

Pensions for widows and children of World War I veterans.  
48 Stat. 1281; 53 Stat. 1068.  
38 U. S. C. § 503 (a), (b).

48 Stat. 1281.  
38 U. S. C. § 504.

Monthly rates.

**Maximum.**

"(b) The total pension payable under this section shall not exceed \$74. Where such benefits would otherwise exceed \$74, the amount of \$74 may be apportioned as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe."

52 Stat. 353.  
38 U. S. C. § 505a.

"Widow of a World War I veteran."

**Proof of marriage.****Date of marriage.****Remarriage.****Continuous cohabitation requirement.****Effective date.****Adjudication of prior claims.**

48 Stat. 8.  
38 U. S. C. §§ 701-724, note foll. § 724; Supp. III, § 701 et seq., note foll. § 732.  
*Ante*, pp. 219, 230, 287, 291, 752, 793.  
§ 67 Stat. 554.  
38 U. S. C., Supp. III, §§ 727-732, 450, 503 (c).

Veterans of World War II.  
Non-service-connected death.

48 Stat. 1281.  
38 U. S. C. §§ 503-505, 506-507a; Supp. III, § 503.  
*Ante*, p. 803.  
38 U. S. C., Supp. III, note foll. § 732.  
*Ante*, p. 230.

SEC. 3. That section 3 of Public Law Numbered 514, Seventy-fifth Congress, May 13, 1938, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. On and after the date of enactment of this Act for the purpose of payment of compensation or pension under the laws administered by the Veterans' Administration, the term 'widow of a World War I veteran' shall mean a woman who was married prior to the effective date of enactment of this amendment, or ten or more years, to the person who served: *Provided*, That all marriages shall be proven as valid marriages according to the law of the place where the parties resided at the time of marriage or the law of the place where the parties resided when the right to compensation or pension accrued: *And provided further*, That where the original date of marriage meets the statutory requirement and the parties were legally married at date of death of the veteran, the requirement of the statute as to date of marriage will be regarded as having been met. Compensation or pension shall not be allowed a widow who has remarried either once or more than once, and where compensation or pension is properly discontinued by reason of remarriage it shall not thereafter be recommenced. No compensation or pension shall be paid to a widow unless there was continuous cohabitation with the person who served from the date of marriage to date of death, except where there was a separation which was due to the misconduct of or procured by the person who served, without the fault of the widow."

SEC. 4. This Act shall be effective from the date of its approval: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the repeal of subsections (a) and (b) of section 1 of Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, as amended, contained in section 1 of this Act, claims otherwise payable for a period prior to the effective date of this Act may be adjudicated and placed on the roll and the benefits of this Act shall be applicable to such claims and those claims now on the rolls.

SEC. 5. Except to the extent they may conflict with the provisions of this Act, the provisions of Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, March 20, 1933, the Veterans Regulations promulgated thereunder, and of Public Law Numbered 144, Seventy-eighth Congress, July 13, 1943, as now or hereafter amended, shall be applicable to this Act: *Provided*, That no compensation or pension shall be reduced or discontinued by the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 6. The widow, child, or children of a veteran who served in World War II whose death is not due to service therein, but who at the time of death was receiving or entitled to receive pension, compensation, or retirement pay for disability incurred in such service, or who, having served at least ninety days during such war period or having been discharged for disability incurred in line of duty during such service, dies or has died from a disease or disability not service connected and at the time of death had a disability due to such service for which pension would be payable if 10 per centum or more in degree, shall be entitled to pension in the amounts and otherwise subject to the conditions of Public Law Numbered 484, as amended: *Provided*, That for the purposes of this section the definition of the terms "veteran", "widow", "child or children" shall be those applicable to World War II as provided in Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, as now or hereafter amended: *And provided further*, That section 4, Public Law Numbered 312, Seventy-eighth Congress, is hereby amended accordingly.

Approved December 14, 1944.